

**MINUTES
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY**

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

6:00 pm McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street

Roll Call:

Members Present: Cynthia Schultz, Bill Brown, Dan Killion, Andy Davis, Matt Laherty, Melissa Clark, Jim Sherman, Toby Strout, Paul Schneller, Bill Brown, Dave Rollo

Regrets: George Huntington

Staff Present: Adam Wason, Jeff Holabaugh

Call to Order/Approval of Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

Public Comment

Committee welcomed members of public.

Announcements

Andy mentioned possibility for sustainability column ("Down To Earth") submissions in HT. Adam informed the commission that the City is moving forward with interview process for the Sustainability Coordinator. Paul and Jim feel a councilperson or BCOS member should be a part of the interview process. Adam does not know of a precedent that has included others in the interviewing process for City positions. Paul put forth a motion to ask the Mayor for representation in the interviewing process for sustainability coordinator position. Jim seconds the motion. Motion carried 6-3. Dave feels that representation is warranted because of the close working relationship BCOS will have with the Sustainability Coordinator position. Andy suggested that BCOS submit criteria or qualifications the Commission would like the Coordinator to have.

Approval of Minutes: November, December 2009

Minutes approved by general consent.

Approval of Officers for 2010

Matt will assume George Huntington's position as Vice-Chair of BCOS.

2009 Sustainability Themes Discussion

Cynthia feels the purpose of these proposed themes is to coordinate discussions among those working with sustainability issues; also, education and awareness to the public. Adam feels that the thematic approach is a step in the right direction to coordinate with the various groups working on sustainability issues in the community. Paul would like to see these prioritized in order to develop a strategic plan for BCOS and the community. Dave informed the commission that Council will be looking into expansion of the water

plant in March or April and feels that water theme should be coordinated with that discussion. Dave also suggested incorporating the “food” theme with the Michael Pollan talk on February 26th. Cynthia informed the commission that Bloomingfoods requested moving “food” to April to coordinate with Earth Week. Paul asked if it would be possible to appoint a “coordinator” for each monthly theme. Bill suggested incorporating a “color-coded” system (food is green, energy is yellow, etc) to denote the various topics. Bill informed the Commission that Dr. Brian J. Soden, a member of the IPCC and a Nobel Laureate is coming to IU on January 20th to speak about climate issues. Bill informed the Commission that IU would like to incorporate their calendar of events with other sustainability event calendars.

Discussion of Sustainability Newsletter

Cynthia informed the Commission that the Communications Working Group hopes to complete the first newsletter, “Sustainability Network” by the end of January or beginning of February.

Committee Reports

Matt informed the Commission that the water committee feels that Bloomington is approaching the end of its capacity to provide water to the community. Matt feels that conservation will help but it is absolutely necessary to expand the water plant.

Paul requested a motion to set strategic planning session by March to send to the Sustainability Coordinator. Adam feels it necessary to incorporate the Coordinator when putting together a strategic plan. Commission will attempt to identify a date in March to discuss a strategic plan; tentatively the March 9th BCOS meeting.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned 7:38 pm.